

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 26, 2007 07-25 Glen Canyon National Recreation Area 691 Scenic View Dr. PO Box 1507 Page, AZ 86040-1507

CONTACT: Kevin Schneider 928-608-6208

Glen Canyon News Release

Weekend Accidents on Lake Powell Leave One Dead and Another in Critical Condition

Page, Ariz. – Two serious, unrelated accidents in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area this weekend claimed the life of a 20- year- old woman and left a 20- year old man in critical condition.

On Saturday at approximately 5:00 pm, a group of seven friends were returning to Bullfrog Marina from the Hansen Creek area aboard a 23- foot powerboat. The driver was apparently distracted and not paying attention, causing the boat to slam head- on into a rock wall at 30- 40 mph.

Eight National Park Service rangers responded to the scene of the accident, with all of the boat's seven occupants experiencing major injuries. Park rangers found Danielle Sorensen, of Delta, Utah, not breathing when they arrived. They began CPR on her while they treated the six other victims. A flight nurse from Classic Lifeguard Helicopters later pronounced Danielle dead.

All of the survivors were flown from the scene of the accident to regional medical centers in Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico. The other six victims, all between the ages of 20-25, are expected to recover.

The Kane County Sheriff's Office and the National Park Service are investigating the accident.

On Friday, Colton Dixon was wakeboarding at approximately 6:30 pm in the remote San Juan arm of Lake Powell. He had just completed a flip when the front part of the wakeboard went underwater, causing him to fall forward and strike his face on the water.

Colton soon began experiencing seizures. His friends got him to a nearby houseboat, which happened to have two nurses on board. They used marine band radio to call for help and began resuscitation efforts on Colton. Classic Lifeguard Helicopters flew to the scene and transported Colton to the Flagstaff Medical Center. He remains there in critical condition. Colton lives in Emmett, Idaho.

- www.nps.gov/glca -